

Contents at a Glance

Introduction	1
Part I: Getting Started	7
Chapter 1: Getting to Know the Work Area	9
Chapter 2: Getting Ready to Edit	29
Chapter 3: Working with Resolutions, Color Modes, and File Formats	43
Part II: Getting Organized	67
Chapter 4: Getting Your Images	69
Chapter 5: Viewing and Finding Your Images	93
Chapter 6: Organizing and Managing Your Photos	115
Part III: Selecting and Correcting Photos	137
Chapter 7: Making and Modifying Selections	139
Chapter 8: Working with Layers	167
Chapter 9: Simple Image Makeovers	187
Chapter 10: Correcting Contrast, Color, and Clarity	213
Part IV: Exploring Your Inner Artist	239
Chapter 11: Playing with Filters, Effects, Styles, and More	241
Chapter 12: Drawing and Painting	267
Chapter 13: Working with Type	291
Part V: Printing, Creating, and Sharing	305
Chapter 14: Getting It on Paper	307
Chapter 15: Showing It Onscreen	325
Chapter 16: Making Creations and Sharing	339
Part VI: The Part of Tens	351
Chapter 17: Ten Tips for Composing Better Photos	353
Chapter 18: Ten More Project Ideas	363
Index	369

Table of Contents

Introduction..... 1

About This Book.....	2
Conventions Used in This Book	2
How This Book Is Organized.....	3
Part I: Getting Started	3
Part II: Getting Organized	4
Part III: Selecting and Correcting Photos	4
Part IV: Exploring Your Inner Artist	4
Part V: Printing, Creating, and Sharing.....	4
Part VI: The Part of Tens	5
Icons Used in This Book.....	5
Where to Go from Here.....	6

Part 1: Getting Started..... 7

Chapter 1: Getting to Know the Work Area 9

Getting Around in Full Edit Mode.....	10
Jumping to Full Edit mode.....	10
Examining the Image window	10
Moving through the menu bar	14
Uncovering the context menus.....	15
Using the Tools panel.....	16
Playing with panels	17
Selecting tool options from the Options bar	17
Juggling all your interface options	18
Looking at Shortcuts.....	19
Changing Workspaces.....	20
Using Quick Edit mode	20
Using creation tools	22
Using the Project Bin	22
Creating different views of an image.....	23
Hiding the Project Bin.....	23
Using Bin Actions	24
Retracing Your Steps	24
Using the Undo History panel.....	24
Reverting to the last save.....	25
Getting a Helping Hand.....	26
Using Help	26
Using PDFs from the installation CD	27
Using ToolTips	27
Taking Charge with Shortcuts	27

Chapter 2: Getting Ready to Edit29

Controlling the Editing Environment	29
Launching and navigating Preferences	30
Checking out all the Preferences panes	31
Controlling the Organizing Environment	32
Understanding the Photoshop Elements Organizer	32
Navigating Organizer preferences	33
Setting preferences in all the panes	34
Customizing Presets	35
Getting Familiar with Color	36
Introducing color channels	36
Understanding bit depth	37
Getting Color Right	39
Calibrating your monitor	39
Choosing a color workspace	40
Understanding how profiles work	42

Chapter 3: Working with Resolutions, Color Modes, and File Formats43

The Ubiquitous Pixels	43
Understanding resolution	44
Understanding image dimensions	45
The Art of Resampling	46
Changing image size and resolution	46
Understanding the results of resampling	48
Choosing a Resolution for Print or Onscreen	49
Go Ahead — Make My Mode!	50
Converting to bitmap mode	51
Converting to grayscale mode	53
Converting to indexed color mode	56
Saving Files with Purpose	56
Using the Save/Save As dialog box	57
Saving files for the Web	58
Understanding file formats	58
File formats at a glance	64
Audio and video formats supported in Elements	66

Part II: Getting Organized67**Chapter 4: Getting Your Images69**

Digital Cameras versus Scanners and Film Cameras	70
Grabbing Images from Your Camera	71
Choosing a file format	71
Using the Microsoft Scanner and Camera Wizard	72
Using Adobe Photoshop Elements 6.0 – Photo Downloader	73
Resizing images from digital cameras	76

Using a Scanner	76
Preparing before you scan	76
Understanding image requirements.....	77
Using scanner plug-ins.....	78
Scanning many photos at a time	79
Getting Files from Storage Media	80
Using Online Services	81
Phoning In Your Images.....	81
Creating Images from Scratch	82
A Basic Primer on Camera Raw	85
Understanding Camera Raw.....	85
Acquiring Camera Raw images	86

Chapter 5: Viewing and Finding Your Images 93

The Many Faces of the Organizer	93
Adding files to the default Organizer view	94
Changing the Organizer display	95
Viewing photos in a slide show (Full Screen view).....	99
Moving Around the Image Window.....	104
Zooming in and out of images.....	104
Viewing multiple documents	106
Using Pan and Zoom	108
Using the Navigator panel.....	108
Sorting Your Photos	109
Using sort commands	109
Sorting media types	110
Using Search Options	110
Searching by date.....	110
Searching for untagged items	111
Searching collections	111
Searching captions and notes.....	111
Searching metadata.....	112
Searching by history	113
Searching faces	113

Chapter 6: Organizing and Managing Your Photos 115

Organizing Groups of Images with Keyword Tags	115
Creating a new keyword tag.....	116
Working with keyword tags.....	118
Cataloging Files	119
Splitting a big catalog into smaller catalogs	120
Importing photos to a new catalog	121
Switching to a different catalog	121
Creating Albums.....	122
Rating images.....	122
Adding rated files to an album.....	123
Hiding Files That Get in the Way	127
Stacking 'em up.....	127
Creating versions.....	128

Sticking Digital Notes on Your Photos.....	130
Automating Your Organization.....	131
Automating common tasks when you export.....	131
Renaming files.....	134
Protecting Your Photos.....	135
Backing up your catalog.....	135
Backing up photos and files.....	136

Part III: Selecting and Correcting Photos 137

Chapter 7: Making and Modifying Selections139

Defining Selections.....	139
Creating Rectangular and Elliptical Selections.....	140
Perfecting squares and circles with Shift and Alt	141
Applying marquee options.....	142
Making Freeform Selections with the Lasso Tools.....	144
Selecting with the Lasso tool.....	144
Getting straight with the Polygonal Lasso tool	146
Snapping with the Magnetic Lasso tool.....	147
Working Wizardry with the Magic Wand.....	149
Talking about tolerance.....	149
Wielding the wand to select.....	150
Modifying Your Selections	151
Adding to a selection	151
Subtracting from a selection.....	152
Intersecting two selections	152
Avoiding key collisions	152
Painting with the Selection Brush.....	153
Painting with the Quick Selection Brush.....	155
Working with the Cookie Cutter Tool	156
Eliminating with the Eraser Tools.....	158
The Eraser tool	159
The Background Eraser tool	159
The Magic Eraser tool.....	160
Using the Magic Extractor Command.....	161
Using the Select Menu	163
Selecting all or nothing.....	163
Reselecting a selection	163
Inversing a selection	164
Feathering a selection.....	164
Refining the edges of a selection.....	164
Using the Modify commands	165
Applying the Grow and Similar commands.....	166
Saving and loading selections.....	166

Chapter 8: Working with Layers167

Getting to Know Layers	167
Anatomy of a Layers panel	169
Using the Layer and Select menus	172
Working with Different Layer Types	173
Image layers	174
Adjustment layers	174
Fill layers	176
Shape layers	178
Type layers	179
Tackling Layer Basics	179
Creating a new layer from scratch	179
Using Layer via Copy and Layer via Cut	180
Duplicating layers	180
Dragging and dropping layers	181
Using the Paste into Selection command	182
Moving a Layer's Content	183
Transforming Layers	183
Flattening and Merging Layers	184
Merging layers	185
Flattening layers	185

Chapter 9: Simple Image Makeovers187

Cropping and Straightening Images	187
Cutting away with the Crop tool	187
Cropping with a selection border	189
Straightening images	190
Using the Divide Scanned Photos command	191
Employing One-Step Auto Fixes	192
Auto Smart Fix	193
Auto Levels	193
Auto Contrast	194
Auto Color Correction	194
Auto Sharpen	195
Auto Red Eye Fix	195
Editing with Quick Edit	197
Cloning with the Clone Stamp Tool	200
Retouching with the Healing Brush	202
Zeroing In with the Spot Healing Brush	204
Lightening and Darkening with Dodge and Burn Tools	205
Smudging Away Rough Spots	206
Softening with the Blur Tool	208
Focusing with the Sharpen Tool	209
Sponging Color On and Off	209
Replacing One Color with Another	211

Chapter 10: Correcting Contrast, Color, and Clarity 213

Adjusting Lighting	214
Fixing lighting with Shadows/Highlights	214
Using Brightness/Contrast	215
Pinpointing proper contrast with Levels	216
Adjusting Color	218
Removing color casts automatically	219
Adjusting with Hue/Saturation	220
Eliminating color with Remove Color	222
Switching colors with Replace Color	223
Correcting with Color Curves	224
Adjusting skin tones	226
Defringing layers	227
Correcting with Color Variations	228
Adjusting color temperature with photo filters	230
Mapping your colors	231
Adjusting Clarity	233
Removing noise, artifacts, dust, and scratches	233
Blurring when you need to	235
Sharpening for better focus	236

Part IV: Exploring Your Inner Artist 239**Chapter 11: Playing with Filters, Effects, Styles, and More 241**

Having Fun with Filters	241
Applying filters	242
Corrective or destructive filters	243
One-step or multistep filters	243
Giving a filter an encore	243
Fading a filter	244
Selectively applying a filter	244
Working in the Filter Gallery	245
Distorting with the Liquify Filter	247
Correcting Camera Distortion	250
Dressing Up with Photo and Text Effects	252
Adding Shadows, Glows, and More	254
Applying layer styles	254
Working with layer styles	256
Mixing It Up with Blend Modes	256
General blend modes	257
Darken blend modes	257
Lighten blend modes	258

Lighting blend modes	259
Inverter blend modes.....	260
HSL blend modes.....	260
Using Photomerge.....	261
Chapter 12: Drawing and Painting	267
Choosing Color	267
Working with the Color Picker.....	268
Dipping into the Color Swatches panel	269
Sampling with the Eyedropper tool	270
Getting Artsy with the Pencil and Brush Tools	272
Drawing with the Pencil tool.....	272
Painting with the Brush tool	274
Creating your own brush.....	275
Using the Impressionist Brush	276
Filling and Outlining Selections	277
Fill 'er up.....	278
Outlining with the Stroke command.....	279
Splashing On Color with the Paint Bucket Tool	280
Working with Multicolored Gradients	280
Applying a preset gradient.....	281
Customizing gradients	282
Working with Patterns	285
Applying a preset pattern.....	285
Creating a new pattern	285
Creating Shapes of All Sorts.....	286
Drawing a shape	287
Drawing multiple shapes.....	288
Specifying geometry options	288
Editing shapes.....	290
Chapter 13: Working with Type	291
Understanding Type Basics	291
Creating Point Type	293
Creating Paragraph Type	294
Specifying Type Options	295
Editing Text	297
Simplifying Type.....	298
Masking with Type	299
Stylizing and Warping Type	301
Adjusting type opacity.....	302
Applying filters to your type	302
Painting your type with color and gradients	302
Warping your type.....	304

Part V: Printing, Creating, and Sharing.....305**Chapter 14: Getting It on Paper307**

Getting Pictures Ready for Printing	308
Working with Color Printer Profiles	308
Understanding how Elements uses color profiles.....	308
Converting color to a printer profile.....	309
Printing to Epson Inkjet Printers.....	311
Automatic profile selection for Epson printers	312
Selecting a printer profile	316
Printing with a custom profile	317
Printing to HP Inkjet Printers.....	318
Printing to Canon Printers	320
Submitting Files to Service Centers	321
Using Online Printing Services	323
Exploring Other Print Options	324

Chapter 15: Showing It Onscreen325

Getting Familiar with the Elements Sharing and Printing Options	325
Creating a Slide Show	326
Creating a project	327
Exporting to slides and video	330
Opening multipage PDF files in Elements.....	331
Writing Creations to CDs and DVDs.....	332
Showing Your Files on the Web	333
Creating an Online Gallery	333
Become a blogger!	335
Flip 'Em Over with Flipbooks.....	337

Chapter 16: Making Creations and Sharing339

Getting a Grip on Assembling Creations	339
Creating a Photo Book.....	341
Greetings!	344
Creating Calendars.....	345
Creating Personal Postage Stamps	346
Creating CD and DVD Labels	347
Spreading the Love through Sharing	347
Ordering prints online	347
E-mailing creations.....	348
Using Photo Mail	350

Part VI: The Part of Tens351**Chapter 17: Ten Tips for Composing Better Photos353**

Find a Focal Point.....	353
Use the Rule of Thirds	355
Cut the Clutter	355
Frame Your Shot.....	357
Employ Contrast.....	357
Using Leading Lines	358
Experiment with Viewpoints.....	358
Use Light.....	359
Giving Direction.....	361
Consider Direction of Movement	362

Chapter 18: Ten More Project Ideas363

Wallpaper and Screen Savers	363
Flyers, Ads, and Online Auctions	364
Clothes, Hats, and More	366
Posters.....	366
Household and Business Inventories	367
Project Documentation	367
School Reports and Projects	368
Wait — There's More	368

Index369

